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Jose Martins at UN Decol. Comittee

Statement by Mr. Jose Martins III
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[This is the printed statement as distributed by Mr. Martins.]

Mr. Chairman,

As to my best knowledgement from the Timorese side, Mr. Jose Luis Guterres has addressed this Committee on July 13, 1993 with an East Timorese dignity which has jeopardized the role of the outsiders using the name of our People for personal international image. Therefore, Mr. Jose Luis Guterres in some extent has contributed to correspond to the efforts of His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations teaching to all of us, the Timorese, to first create among ourselves a platform of dialogue which will allow Portugal and Indonesia to find out a fair solution for East Timor internationally accepted.

In fact, my question is: How to solve the case of East Timor, if we, the victims and protagonizers of the civil war provoked by the irresponsibility of Portuguese authorities in 1974, are irreversibly opposite among ourselves

How can the United Nations' good will and honest intentions to implement conditions in the field, to harmonize Portugal and Indonesia if all of us the real political leaders of East Timor, we don't sit in a table facing each others without any interference of no matter whom?

I am the oldest political veteran of East Timor politics as far as 1962 the year I was a political prisoner of the Portuguese colonial power and therefore I am the person who can dismiss one by one the assertions and the argumentation of all those, including all Portuguese political parties and international groups, by proving that never occurred a "decolonization process" in East Timor but a simple conspiracy to launch the East Timorese against East Timorese in a bloody inhumane civil war just to please foreign interests opposed between Communism and Democracy.

I am not sure the moment I write this statement if Mr. Jose Ramos Horta is coming here too because we could perhaps set up together in an informal meeting of brothers of same blood to establish the most important target that the world opinion expects from all of us: the respect, service and sacrifice for our beloved East Timorese people, after all the sole human entity merged during 500 years in continuous Holocaust.

I and Ze Horta we always understood each other's political positions and even we were companions in the Resistance outside front for many years. Jose Horta, however, is compromised with 20 years old acquaintances which he knows very well that their own target is to use East Timor against Indonesia. Myself, I decided last year not to contribute any further to support a Resistance whose leaders technically, financially and ideologically are not anymore real Asuains Barani of East Timor because Indonesia has improved a lot of respect for our People integrity and welfare and we have guarantees that the sad case of the 12 November Santa Cruz incident will not be repeated by personal initiative on the spot by alteration of public order.

My brothers herein present have the highest East Timorese qualification and background in the Resistance to talk to the world opinion. Mr. Xavier do Amaral was the President of the Democratic Republic of East Timor and to save many lives himself was martyrized by radical revolutionary members of Fretilin almost to death. Mr. Paulino Gama was during 10 years the most qualified guerilla Commander who built up the Timorese "partisan marquis".

By the first time in our contemporaneous History, three top leaders of the East Timorese process, who were "ideological enemies in the war field" are waiving up any personal interest only to grant conditions with Portugal and Indonesia to allow our people to have finally Peace, Order, Harmony and Development and because actual Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs His Excellency Durao Barroso has given evidence of a real Statesman by listening different East Timorese tendencies.

All of us three herein present have a goal: to respect Indonesia as the Ancestral Millinery Tree of the Ancestors we come from, which is the same biological and human common stadium where we belong and to honor Portugal for its gentle light of Christianism when our ancestors brothers were exterminated in large scale by colonialist terror and violence.

Today some people want to discuss Indonesian presence in East Timor in the last 18 years. But who cares to understand what was the dramatic submission to Portuguese colonialism under the most horrible circumstances, in the time that there did not exist "mass media" or any international forum? For us, protectors of our People survival and continuity, we want Peace and Harmony with Indonesians, Portuguese and the World, instead of sacrifying the People to minor gods of perturbancy and exploitation.

I dare to think that among this honorable Committee members some may be originally from States which were submitted to Colonialism in the past with the consequence that parts of their own peoples were arbitrarily "transferred" to political borders idealized by foreign powers with no respect for ethnical and language original patterns. This is certainly a drama which many times is in the basis of permanent conflicts.

The case of East Timor is similar. The Dutch and the Portuguese with no permission whatsoever have divided the island of Timor in two parts just to consolidate their own exploiting colonial interests. Since 1914, we the Timorese had to close our eyes when the Switzerland arbitrarily have sanctioned the division of Timor Island between Portugal and the Nederlands as a result of the 1851 illegal private sale of Flores, Adunara, Solor, Alor and West Timor by the Portuguese Commissar Lopes de Lima to the Kupang Dutch Resident.

We are in fact tired of business in our backs and also we have to say that Portugal never respected the conditions agreed with the Liurais of East Timor "to protect the territory with full respect for its own Peoples". East Timor was abandoned by Portugal precisely in the moment we were struggling ourselves in a dirty civil war caused by Portuguese revolutionaries. When I asked in 1975 the last Portuguese military officers who was going now to defend the Portuguese flag hoisted in Batugade, before they moved into Indonesian territory the answer was: "You, the Timorese, must be the ones to take care of yourselves now. Our mission here is over. There is no way back to restore conditions of peace because you, the Timorese, will never be in peace among yourselves. It is the tradition".

And this is in part true. We were divided by the Portuguese colonialism to kill our own brothers to sanctify Portugal. And the result was not only dramatic but horrible: we had to choose between a new protecting power like Indonesia, our natural human and biological stadium or the self extermination.

At the request of Portugal at Rome Meeting in November 1, and 2, 1975, Indonesia was forced to establish Peace and Order. Our four parties, as the replacing Fretilin revolutionary government, we choose the Integration knowing that it would take at least two generations to breath prosperity and peace finally after a 500 years period of emotions, suffering, glory and death.

Therefore, the sole important question is this: Shall we continue to provoke conditions to offend Indonesia, our saviour from Chaos and Disorder or should we ask Indonesia to promote our People for a happy future or brotherhood and common identity in all fields of human progress, respect and development?

After 19 years abandonment, Portugal is our respected and honored people with an heroic behavior in the world, notwithstanding a criminal process of general delivery of its overseas peoples to neo-dictators. But Portugal also today could never help us to be independent because we are already independent through our decision to ask Indonesia to preserve us from new forms of colonialism aiming to destroy ourselves through more divisions and civil fights.

Who is really independent today unless the rich north hemisphere states? An independence of East Timor would be impossible because:

a. We are divided and under continuous ideological and political opposition;

b. Unless we sell our independence to foreign exploitation and domain we could not feed ourselves because the erosion of our forests and 60% of soil incapability for quick new harvests are a fact;

c. We would be forced to become a spot of internationalization of conflicts at the gate entrance of Australia and a permanent reference to destabilize large areas of Southern Asia, creating difficulties to a new "entente cordiale" between the states surrounding both coasts of the Pacific.

Point C above in fact is part of an international motivation from some militancy areas aimed to destroy Indonesia and possibly part of the Philippines as sovereign states.

We struggle for the cooperation and benefits of western civilization in Southeast Asia with major emphasis to the United States alongside with Japan, China, Korea, EEC and even Canada, Australia and New Zealand. From this goal it will be possible to bring direct and quick advantage to many states of the Third World which have the responsibility to let the western / Asian cooperation to develop in peace for mutual profit otherwise we will not stop cases like Angola, Mozambique, Somalia, Biafra, Ethiopia, etc. Time has arrived for an International Order based not an ideological options but in the supremacy of know-how, manpower, technology and solidarity for great targets as to produce food, machinery, medicines and better standard of education and living.

Indonesia is ready to undertake its duties before the humankind needs as the greatest state of Southeast Asia. If East Timor is a problem for some persistent and stubborn groups made by the some people who still want to restore the principle of a rotten socialism which is after all the dictatorship of the party over the workers, for us, East Timor is moving steadily ahead towards happiness as Indonesian central authorities are now totally committed to respect the people of East Timor in all areas, In the past we built and acted in a resistance which was heroic but not aimed against our Indonesian brother. It was set up against abuses and violence of some responsible ones today totally refrained and removed for East Timor by the Indonesian central authorities.

Therefore, all I ask to this wise and honorable Committee is it allow Portugal and Indonesia to act together according to the recommendation of His Excellency Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary General of the United Nations which obviously means that if, we the victims and protagonizers of an historical process do not sit to talk without foreign pressures and intervention, the case of East Timor will continue to be a burden for the UN as a world forum which inherited from Portugal the responsibilities caused by a blamefull abandonment of East Timor.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.